

From: Catherine Landers catherine.landiers@lacity.org
Subject: Fwd: RAP BOARD MEETING TOMORROW
Date: August 10, 2016 at 3:05 PM JST
To: Estevan Montemayor estevan.montemayor@lacity.org

FYI a

Catherine Landers
Office of Councilmember David Ryu

Please excuse typos, sent from my iPhone

a
Begin forwarded message:

[Quoted text hidden]

Attachments:
<noname.html>

From: Pamela
Subject: RAP BOARD MEETING TOMORROW
Date: August 10, 2016 at 2:12 PM JST
To: "david.ryu@lacity.org" david.ryu@lacity.org

Dear Councilman RYU,

Tomorrow the Board of RAP will vote to approve the "reimbursement" of One Hundred Seventy Two Thousand One Hundred Two Dollars and Sixty-nine Cents (\$172, 102.69) to Pink Dolphin Clothing, LLC (Pink Dolphin) from Runyon Canyon Park Fund 302, Department 88.

Please DO NOT ALLOW THIS SO-CALLED REIMBURSEMENT to be PAID to FORC, disguising itself as "a donor", on behalf of a donor who never donated funds to the city.

RAP and FORC have both represented to HHWNC and your offices that any donation made by Pink Dolphin was made to FORC, and that RAP did not have any agreement with Pink Dolphin.

FORC BOASTED that it assumed responsibility for the Runyon project, under the terms of a Right of Entry Permit, which required that FORC (i) comply with the City's laws, (ii) obtain insurance, (iii) use competent contractors, and, (iv) INDEMNIFY THE CITY FROM ANY AND ALL DAMAGES.

Furthermore, whatever damages occurred were unnecessary and could have been easily avoided.

As you know, several FORC board members attended the April 4, 2016 HHWNC Board meeting, as did you and several senior RAP employees.

At that meeting, the HHWNC Board unanimously voted to postpone the Runyon Canyon basketball court project, due to the enormous opposition to the project voiced by the community, due to the project's location, (on a hiking trail in a wilderness area), and concerns about numerous issues including noise, commercial logos in public parks, and violations of CEQA.

After the HHWNC meeting and with full knowledge of the community's opposition to the project, FORC, together with the Donor, and the donor's chosen contractors and workers, plowed ahead with the demolition of a sound, functioning, retaining wall, and other structures and vegetation, in Runyon Canyon Park.

The community was forced to file an expensive lawsuit to stop FORC and the DONOR from continuing to proceed ahead with their demolition activities.

Displaying the opportunistic and self-promoting attitude of a true conman, just a few days after the destruction in Runyon began, the Donor stood on the rubble he had created and posed for a LA Times newspaper story, advertising his company, and shrugging off all concerns about the community's opposition to his plans.

Notably, it also turns out that FORC and the Donor proceeded with the demolition in Runyon without first acquiring the REQUIRED permits, and without first obtaining sign-off from the city on their engineering and structural plans.

The City's Right of Entry Permit, signed by FORC, required that FORC obtain insurance and that FORC comply with all city codes and rules. FORC did not do so.

FORC breached its agreement with the City, and FORC, and only FORC, is responsible for the costs described in the attached RAP memo.

Presumably FORC, and its Contractor complied with their requirement to obtain insurance (however, I have been unable to locate that policy). If the claims asserted by the Donor are legitimate, as RAP contends, FORC and the Donor's chosen contractor should seek reimbursement from the insurer, NOT FROM THE TAXPAYERS.

THE COURSE OF ACTION DESCRIBED IN THIS GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT is not supported by any records, and is offensive, if not



illegal.

REJECTION of this proposal is mandated by agreements executed by FORC, and by the City Charter of Los Angeles.

I hope you will agree to investigate this matter thoroughly, and that you will seek to prevent your constituents from being hoodwinked again by FORC, and their secret partners.

Sincerely,

Pamela

Attachments:

<16-183.pdf>

<ATT00001.txt>

From:

Don

Subject:

HHWNC Council Meeting tonight

Date:

July 21, 2016 at 12:30 AM JST

To:

Anastasia

Hollywood Hills West Board of Directors

Dear Anastasia and HHWNC Board Members,

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Runyon Canyon Foundation is unable to attend the meeting on this Wednesday. Many of the members are out of town, and others have not received notice and are unavailable. We did notice the agenda item to "dissolve the MOU between FORC and Rec and Parks". As we have recommended before, the Foundation would rather meet with the appropriate parties to discuss what concerns they have with the MOU so that we can reach a mutual agreement. Perhaps this could be facilitated by Rec & Parks staff and/or CD4 staff. The Foundation is a fundraising organization for Runyon Canyon, we do not manage or operate the park – all those decisions are made by Rec & Parks.

As you know, the Directors of the Foundation have had ongoing and productive meetings with many CD4 and park constituents, the DWP, and Rec and Parks staff in order to bring about improvements in the Park. These frequent meetings and the great work of our City staff have brought about park improvements for erosion control, trail maintenance, etc. – which you will soon see! We look forward to the Park re-opening very soon.

So with the best interests of Runyon Canyon at heart, the Foundation proposes the following:

Whereas:

1. The Foundation has been very successful in raising funds for Runyon
 - a. Over \$100,000 in 2015 for new benches, trash containers, bike racks, dog waste dispensers and 1000's of bags, clean-up signage, kiosk and message board renovations, as well as a Runyon demographic study and hiring MLA & Associates (park experts) to evaluate the park
 - b. Over \$500,000 in 2016 to support the Trust for Public Land (TPL)-led effort to acquire land for more open green space, extend a wildlife corridor, and preserve a Runyon Canyon hiking trail
2. The Foundation's ongoing efforts in working with the City Staff have resulted in real park improvements by DWP and RAP during the closure
 - a. Including a totally resurfaced Fire Road and erosion control measures, upper Runyon trail maintenance, piping for a storm water reclamation future project, new fire hydrants, and 4 drinking fountains to be deployed
3. Many people support the Foundation and the existing MOU – once they heard people were trying to terminate it
 - a. Several emails to Jeff

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- b. Neighborhood Letter provided at Parks & Open Space Meeting
- c. Hillside Federation Letter provided at Parks & Open Space Meeting
- 4. Terminating the MOU causes irreparable harm
 - a. To FORC's fundraising efforts and park preservation
 - b. Similar future LA City volunteer efforts for Parks
 - c. Discourages others from contemplating private-public partnerships

Therefore:

- We recommend no termination of the MOU, but propose the following instead -
- "Request for the postponement of any immediate action of terminating the MOU between the Foundation and the Department of Recreation and Parks, and focus on developing a mutual way forward with continuing discussions between the Foundation and Citizens to Preserve Runyon."

Thank you,

Don

Don't

 Friends of Runyon Canyon.org

From: Anastasia
Subject: Re: HHWNC Council Meeting tonight
Date: July 21, 2016 at 3:13 AM JST
To: Don

Hello Don,

Thank you for your messages.

First of all, we cannot alter an agenda after it's been posted within the 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Secondly, board members are prohibited from communicating via "serial" email (more than 5 members) as this denies public transparency. These are Brown Act rules by which we are governed like any other elected city or state board or commission. For this reason only the executive committee is copied here.

As I've mentioned to you before, since you have been working with city departments including Rec & Parks, CD4, HHWNC and others and dealing with tax payer dollars, it may behoove you and your board to familiarize yourselves with the Brown Act rules.

I'm sure your points will be discussed during the portion of the meeting designated to FORC and the MOU. It's unfortunate you are not able to have any one there to represent your position. Notice of this meeting and topic were announced well before the required time period. If your board members are unaware then perhaps they should consider signing up as stakeholders or at least to get meeting notices. This is easily done by visiting our website at www.hhwnc.org.

I did ask Josh to call me after the Parks meeting to discuss how your perspectives might be presented but, unfortunately I have not heard from him.

I can assure you I will do my utmost to explain the positions and circumstances rather than taking a position personally. Regardless of how this meeting comes out I have already suggested and requested a follow up meeting with all concerned parties to attempt to reach a consensus for the benefit of the park as well as the community.

Hope your continuing to enjoy your vacation.

Best regards,

Anastasia

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Anastasia



CST: 2017857-10

Travel, Meeting & Entertainment Management

On Jul 20, 2016, at 8:31 AM, Don

? wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Attachments:

<image003.jpg>

From:

Don

Subject:

FW: FW: HHWNC Council Meeting tonight

Date:

July 21, 2016 at 4:48 AM JST

To:

estevan.montemayor@lacity.org, catherine.landiers@lacity.org

FYI.....

Don

Don

From: Tim

Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 1:11 PM

To: Don

Subject: Re: FW: HHWNC Council Meeting tonight

Thanks Don. Some very good, positive news to report about your fundraising efforts. I'll attend the HHWNC meeting tonight, and see what happens with the motion to recommend terminating the MOU, and if CD4 will step in and broker a postponement for you.

I appreciate the facts you sent. Thanks!

Tim

On Wed, Jul 20, 2016 at 8:41 AM, Don

rote:

[Quoted text hidden]

[REDACTED]

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Tina

Exclusively in CityWatch

From:

Don

Subject:

Example of the Repeated Misrepresentations

Date:

July 19, 2016 at 10:49 PM JST

To:

Dear Anastasia,

Enclosed is the latest example of the continuing misrepresentation of the truth that is influencing the people and your Council in your HHWNC meetings.

As I stated in my previous email to you and Bob ---

I told Bob Mansell in our conversation over a week ago that the Friends of Runyon Canyon Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit with the sole mission to raise money for Runyon Canyon. We are not a political entity and we do not make political endorsements. We also do not get involved with individual homeowner's properties and their permits – that is not our Mission. As a result, the Friends of Runyon Canyon **Foundation never voted on the subject property** contrary to what is being propagated to encourage dissent. For the record, the property owner did donate to the Foundation to help preserve and protect Runyon which was publicly posted in the park with other donors.

Separately, as concerned neighborhood association representatives, the subject property was brought to the attention of the Hillside Federation and the Mulholland Design Review Board in May 2015. Those are the forums for dealing with personal property concerns in the hillsides and those organizations took the appropriate action on the subject property. Did the HHWNC also consider the subject property?

Now, this same group of folks has an online petition of dissent based on further misrepresentations. While we came to the HHWNC on April 4, 2016 to present ideas and concepts for Runyon by our park consultant and asked the attendees to vote on them, these same folks are propagating them as done deals – which they are not. We have told people repeatedly that the parking structure and café ideas are not part of any plans, yet they are the basis of online petitions.

We are concerned that your Council is being asked to vote on agenda items with this continuing misrepresentation of the truth.

If our Foundation Board agrees that the HHWNC is the proper forum, we will forward our response to the other lies and misrepresentations. This will not include the personal accusations and affronts on our individual Board Members since I feel that is inappropriate in your forum. We would do this if indeed it will be made part of the conversation at your meeting. Please let us know – thank you.

Sincerely,

Don

Don

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